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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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CD NO. [REDACTED]

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COUNTRY Albania

DATE DISTR. 15 Nov. 1949

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. It has been reported that, on 17 October 1949, five Polish or Rumanian vessels of 5-6,000 tons were seen unloading miscellaneous war material in Durres.
2. At Tepelene, on 14 October, Albanian police reportedly killed two or three partisans of the Free Albania movement, following a skirmish. Two of the bodies, clothed in khaki Allied uniforms, were placed in Vlone Piazza, in public view. On 19 October, anti-Communist manifestos reportedly appeared one morning on walls in Vlone, advising the people to be calm, as the two dead would be vindicated in due time.
3. Informants report that crossings over the Yugoslav-Albanian border by Albanian Nationalists usually take place in the MS Tarabosh zone (sic).
4. During the first half of October, demobilized members of the classes of 1920 to 1936 (sic) were recalled to arms; the numbers of men eligible for military service who are still at home is thus very small, and even these have been instructed, that, in the event of their mobilization (which might be imminent), they were to present themselves to their local conscription headquarters with enough food for five days and a pair of spare shoes in good condition. In the zones of Korco, Gjinokaster and Tepelene many, upon this warning, reportedly took to the hills.
5. Conditions in general in Albania are said to be extremely poor; Soviet aid consists mainly of clothing, war material and other equipment destined exclusively for the armed forces. The police exercises the most stringent control over the people, and, in order to live in peace themselves, some are said to be ready to denounce friends or relatives in order not to be suspected by the police. Under such conditions, informants report, the Albanian people will never be able to organize themselves to overthrow the present regime.

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